

# Who am I?

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The Register

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# What have I been doing all my life?

Covering Tech Industry since 1991 or thereabouts.

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# 1991: Personal Computer Magazine

A corporate PC Magazine

120,000 circulation - corporate PC  
users

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So, top of the tech line tech,  
right?

Published by VNU - 500 employees in  
building, average age 26.

No of PCs in building? About 150...



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# State of the art 1991...

Production had Macs – after a strike

Most journalists had borrowed PCs Often running betas of Windows OS's and applications...many crashes

Network = chucking a floppy

Computing still used typewriters

Most mags doing traditional paste-up

Once saw a NeXT Computer...

# 1993: MicroScope Magazine

Dennis Publishing

19 staff, 9,500 issues printed -

Turning over more than £3.5m...

Owner – Felix Dennis – an early investor in MacWarehouse...



So, top end Macs at last...



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# Well, Apple LCIIIs

Taste-full mono

I used mine for keeping toasted  
sandwiches warm

# Did you have an internet?

Files taken to typesetters by bike

BUT we had the internet

Well, Cix and Compuserve and a 56k modem

# Then in 1997, we got...

Internet access

Email

And a website

Updated every...week?

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# 2000: Computerwire

Newsletter company

Did very well in 1990s

Got venture capital money...



They sent me to San Francisco...

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Just as the dot com bubble  
burst...



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# Tech? Patchy...

Hodge-podge of Win 98 PCs

Content management based on Lotus Notes

Had a company mobile...but got cut-off when company didn't pay the bill

Had to get the network out into a white van by the back door

# 2005: The Register

XP-based PCs

2008 moved to Macs

Site is hosted in the cloud

Internal tech mainly cloudy

My mobile has never been cut off...



# Things I've learned

Bubbles do burst

This time is unlikely to be that different

Relationships matter

There are some very very smart people out there

Smart people can do very very well if they work hard and/or well connected

Depends who you're working for though...

# More things I've learned....

Technology advances in very mysterious ways

Some things are always just the other side of the hill – then you end up over it

Don't just look at things like an engineer –  
Google and privacy

Corporate memory is important

Bill Gates has no memory for faces

Thank You

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